

**FEMA**

February 18, 2025

Michael Haney
Director, Office of Grants Management
Colorado Department of Public Safety
Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management
8000 S. Chester Street, Suite 575
Centennial, CO 80112

Re: Remedy for Noncompliance Letter, Shelter and Services Program (SSP)

Grant Number: EMW-2023-SP-05037

Period of Performance: 03/01/2023 – 09/30/2025 Award amount: \$1,635,258.00

Grant Number: EMW-2024-SP-05088

Period of Performance: 10/01/2023 – 09/30/2026 Award amount: \$4,852,467.00

Grant Number: EMW-2024-SP-05199

Period of Performance: 10/01/2023 – 09/30/2026 Award amount: \$1,897,347.00

Dear Mr. Haney:

The purpose of this letter is to notify you that DHS/FEMA is temporarily withholding payments to your organization for the grant award(s) named above, pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.339(a); has requested recovery of one payment completed via direct deposit on February 3, 2025, totaling \$1,897,347.00, and which constitutes a part of this temporary withholding; and is instituting specific conditions on your award pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.208.

Findings

The Department of Homeland Security has significant concerns that SSP funding is going to entities engaged in or facilitating illegal activities. The Department is concerned that entities receiving payment under this program may be guilty of encouraging or inducing an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States in violation of law, 8 U.S.C. § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iv); transporting or moving illegal aliens, *id.* § 1324(a)(1)(A)(ii); harboring, concealing, or shielding from detection illegal aliens, *id.* § 1324(a)(1)(A)(iii); or applicable conspiracy, aiding or abetting, or attempt liability respecting these statutes.

DHS/FEMA is required to administer its grant awards so as to ensure that federal funding is expended and associated programs are implemented in full accordance with the U.S. Constitution, applicable federal statutes, and regulations. 2 C.F.R. § 200.300(a). The terms and conditions of the

award allow the Department to institute appropriate remedies for noncompliance which include temporarily withholding payments or suspending or terminating the award for a failure to comply with the conditions of the award or applicable federal statutes. See 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.208; 200.340; and 200.339(a).

Remedy Action(s) and Specific Condition(s)

Non-federal entities receiving financial assistance from DHS/FEMA are required to comply with requirements in the terms and conditions of their awards or subawards, including the terms set forth in applicable federal statutes, regulations, NOFOs, and policies. Throughout the award lifecycle or even after an award has been closed, DHS/FEMA may discover potential or actual noncompliance on the part of a recipient or subrecipient. This potential or actual noncompliance may be discovered through routine monitoring, audits, closeout, or reporting from various sources. In the case of any potential or actual noncompliance, DHS/FEMA may place special conditions on an award per 2 C.F.R. § 200.208 and § 200.339, DHS/FEMA may place a hold on funds until the matter is corrected, or additional information is provided per 2 C.F.R. § 200.339, or it may do both.

Based on the concerns described above, DHS/FEMA will conduct additional monitoring and review of your award(s) as permitted by the terms and conditions of the award(s) to ensure compliance with all terms and conditions of your award(s). During this time, payments under the grant award(s) will be temporarily held. This action includes the amount of funding identified above that DHS/FEMA recently clawed back. Further, you are not permitted to incur any additional costs under the grant until notified further by DHS/FEMA.

To assist DHS/FEMA in conducting this review, please respond within 30 days with the following information that your organization has not already submitted to DHS/FEMA:

1. All documents regarding the aliens with whom your organization and your subrecipients and contracts interacted with in carrying out the scope of your SSP award, including their names and contact information; and a detailed and descriptive list of specific services provided, and proof of provision of these services; or
2. A written statement that your organization has already submitted all of the information identified in No. 1, above, to DHS/FEMA.

Upon the conclusion of that monitoring, FEMA will notify you of the results and any other remedies for noncompliance or specific conditions, as appropriate.

Opportunity to Appeal

Your organization has the right to appeal this action within 60 days of the date of this letter. The appeal must include the following information:

1. Grant number(s).
2. Recipient name.
3. A written explanation, on your organization's letterhead, explaining why you believe FEMA's decision to temporarily withhold payments to your organization for the grant award(s) named above, pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.339(a), or to prohibit your organization from incurring additional costs under the grant, is not correct.

4. Copies of any documents or statements that support your position that FEMA's decision to temporarily withhold payments to your organization for the grant award(s) named above, pursuant to 2 C.F.R. § 200.339(a) is not correct.

Written appeals should be sent directly to FEMA-SSP@fema.dhs.gov.

The FEMA Grant Programs Directorate is available to respond to any questions you may have. Please send all information and communications regarding this notification to FEMA-SSP@fema.dhs.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Cameron Hamilton", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cameron Hamilton
Senior Official Performing the Duties of the
Administrator